

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

Joyful Examples of Faithfulness

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
June 7, 2026



What qualities mark a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ?

Philippians 2:19-30 (NLT) If the Lord Jesus is willing, I hope to send Timothy to you soon for a visit. Then he can cheer me up by telling me how you are getting along. ²⁰ I have no one else like Timothy, who genuinely cares about your welfare. ²¹ All the others care only for themselves and not for what matters to Jesus Christ. ²² But you know how Timothy has proved himself. Like a son with his father, he has served with me in preaching the Good News. ²³ I hope to send him to you just as soon as I find out what is going to happen to me here. ²⁴ And I have confidence from the Lord that I myself will come to see you soon. ²⁵ Meanwhile, I thought I should send Epaphroditus back to you. He is a true brother, co-worker, and fellow soldier. And he was your messenger to help me in my need. ²⁶ I am sending him because he has been longing to see you, and he was very distressed that you heard he was ill. ²⁷ And he certainly was ill; in fact, he almost died. But God had mercy on him—and also on me, so that I would not have one sorrow after another. ²⁸ So I am all the more anxious to send him back to you, for I know you will be glad to see him, and then I will not be so worried about you. ²⁹ Welcome him in the Lord's love and with great joy, and give him the honour that people like him deserve. ³⁰ For he risked his life for the work of Christ, and he was at the point of death while doing for me what you couldn't do from far away.

1) Faithful disciples prioritize Christ's Mission.

²² "...Like a son with his father, he has served with me in preaching the Good News."

³⁰ "For he risked his life for the work of Christ..."

- **How am I helping make Jesus known?**
- **How am I helping others prioritize the mission of Christ?**

2) Faithful disciples Care Deeply for others.

²⁰⁻²¹ "I have no one else like Timothy, who genuinely cares about your welfare."

²⁵ "He was your messenger to help me in my need."

Philippians 2:6-8

- **Who needs encouragement from me this week?**
- **Whose burden can I help carry?**
- **How can I show Christ's love and kindness in practical ways?**

3) Faithful disciples people prove Consistent Over Time.

²² "You know how Timothy has proved himself."

²⁵ "He is a true brother, co-worker, and fellow soldier."

4) Faithful disciples Embrace the Cost.

³⁰ "He risked his life for the work of Christ."

Matthew 16:24-26 (MSG) "Then Jesus went to work on his disciples. "Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You're not in the driver's seat; I am. Don't run from suffering; embrace it. Follow me and I'll show you how. Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, my way, to finding yourself, your true self. What kind of deal is it to get everything you want but lose yourself? What could you ever trade your soul for?"

- **What sacrifice is God asking me to make?**
- **What comfort is keeping me from full surrender to Jesus?**
- **What would greater obedience look like in my life?**

2 Timothy 2:11-13 (NLT) "This is a trustworthy saying: If we die with him, we will also live with him. ¹² If we endure hardship, we will reign with him. If we deny him, he will deny us. ¹³ If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny who he is."

Big Idea: Christ's faithfulness transforms us into faithful disciples worth following.

- **Cultivate Faithfulness.**
- **Honour Faithfulness.**

Philippians 2:29 (NLT) "Welcome him in the Lord's love and with great joy, and give him the honour that people like him deserve."

Write a note to one of our families serving overseas.

Aaron & Tessa Richert (Dubai) atrichert@gmail.com

Jaylen & Emma Hodges (East Africa) jaylenemma@oncrest.ca

Benjamin & Vierka Núñez (Dominican Republic) benjamin.makarior@gmail.com

Write a note of encouragement to a ministry leader or servant at Sequoia.

**Closing Challenge: Who am I becoming? Am I becoming more like Jesus?
And who is becoming more like Christ because they are watching me?**



**Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.**

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**Joyful Examples of Faithfulness
#9 of 15 - June 7, 2026**

Context

1. Who are some people God has used to influence your faith journey? What qualities did they model that helped you grow in your relationship with Christ
2. Paul has just presented Jesus as the supreme example of humility and sacrificial love in Philippians 2:5-11. Why do you think he follows that section by highlighting Timothy and Epaphroditus as examples of faithful discipleship?

Observation

3. As you read Philippians 2:19-30, what words or phrases stand out in Paul's descriptions of Timothy and Epaphroditus? What do these descriptions reveal about their character?
4. What evidence does Paul give that Timothy and Epaphroditus were faithful disciples? List as many examples as you can find in the passage.

Meaning

5. Paul says Timothy genuinely cared for others and Epaphroditus risked his life for Christ's work. What do these examples teach us about what God values most in His followers?
6. Philippians 2:29 says, "Give him the honour that people like him deserve." Why is it important for the church to honour faithfulness, humility, sacrifice, and service? How does what we celebrate shape the culture of a church?

Application

7. Which of the four qualities discussed in the sermon do you most need to grow in right now?
 - Prioritizing Christ's mission
 - Caring deeply for others
 - Remaining consistent over time
 - Embracing the cost of following Jesus
 - What is one practical step you can take this week?
8. Think of someone who has faithfully served Christ and influenced your life. How could you honour or encourage that person this week? Also, who might be watching your example, and what kind of faith are they seeing in you? Who are the faithful believers you are learning from, and who might God be calling you to influence through your own faithful example?



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